

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1 – 29 (canceled)

30. (new) A server for communicating with a plurality of user terminals via a communication network, comprising:

a memory unit for storing identification information of one of said user terminals, communication capability information of the user terminal, hierarchical access permission setting values with respect to access operations having different priority levels predefined for each of said identification information and said communication capability information, and vertical relation information indicating that access permission information for said identification information has higher priority than access permission information for said communication capability information;

a network interface connected to said communication network; and

a controller, connected to said memory unit and said network interface, for controlling access operations requested to said identification information or said communication capability information based on said hierarchical access permission setting values,

wherein said controller operates, in response to a request for changing the access permission setting value of a specific one of said access operations for said communication capability information from a non-permission state to a permission

state received through said network interface, so as to rewrite access permission values of access operations each having a priority level equal to or higher than that of said specific access operation into the permission state in both said identification information and said communication capability information; and operates, in response to a request for changing the access permission setting value of a specific one of said access operations for said identification information from the permission state to the non-permission state received through said network interface, so as to rewrite access permission values of access operations each having a priority level equal to or higher than that of said specific access operation into the non-permission state in both said identification information and said communication capability information.

31. (new) The server according to claim 30,

wherein said access operations include an information disclosure operation, an information read operation and an information write operation, and

wherein the information disclosure operation has a priority level higher than that of the information read operation, and the information read operation has a priority level higher than that of the information write operation.